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INSIDE

Elba Tigers ready
for 2023 football
season



The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 13

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, August 17, 2023

1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

Friday evening vehicle pursuit ends with wreck

Elba man arrested on multiple charges

A short-lived vehicle pursuit last Friday evening, Aug. 11, on U.S. Highway 84 ended near the Coffee/Covington County line when the vehicle attempting to elude officers wrecked.

Paris Edwards, age 25, of Elba reportedly was the driver a Dodge Ram pickup that attempted to elude an Elba Police officer after the officer observed



Edwards driving erratically. A short time after the pursuit began, Edwards' truck flipped into a residential yard along Hwy. 84.

He was officially arrested later that evening and placed in the Coffee County Jail, where he remained as of press time

this week. Edwards was charged with possession of marijuana – first degree (\$15,000 bond), attempting to elude – no injury (\$6,000 bond), D.U.I. – any substance (\$5,000 bond), reckless endangerment (\$6,000 bond), tampering with physical evidence (\$6,000 bond), and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia (\$6,000 bond).



The driver of this Dodge Ram pickup truck reportedly tried to elude law enforcement last Friday evening, Aug. 11, on U.S. Hwy. 84 before eventually wrecking the vehicle near the Covington/Coffee County line. The driver, identified as Paris Edwards, age 25, of Elba, was reportedly operating the vehicle at a high rate of speed and driving erratically during the short-lived pursuit. He eventually flipped the truck into a residential yard along Hwy. 84. Edwards was later arrested on multiple charges.

News Brief

Deputies with the Coffee County Sheriff's Office arrested a Brundidge, Ala. woman Saturday, Aug. 12, on drug charges.

According to jail reports, Amburlee Kennedy, age 35, of Brundidge was arrested for possession of a controlled substance (\$5,000 bond), and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia (\$1,500 bond). She was released on bond Monday night, Aug. 14th.

Coffee County engineer submits FY24 county transportation plan

Coffee County engineer Marty Lentz presented the county's "Rebuild Alabama" Fiscal Year 2024 County Transportation Plan during the Coffee County Commission meeting held Monday, Aug. 14, in New Brockton.

Lentz said four roads are set to be resurfaced in the plan for an estimated total project cost of \$2,071,000.

The roads included in the proposed plan are County Roads 151, 505, 728, and 514.

A total of 14.78 miles of county roads will be resurfaced when these projects are completed.

The County Road 151 project is 2.76 miles; the

County Rd. 505 project is 2.04 miles; the County Road 728 project is 3.48 miles, and the County Rd. 514 project is 6.50 miles.

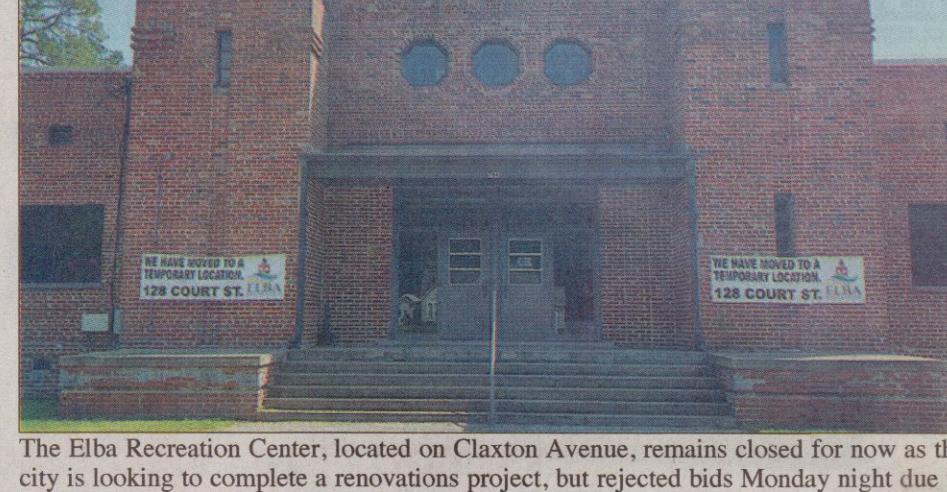
Since the inception of the Rebuild Alabama roadway projects in 2020, Lentz said Coffee County had resurfaced over 42 miles of its roads at a cost of \$4,918,970. This includes 16 different road projects.

These 16 projects includes County Roads 723, 200, 110, 420, 422, 423, 248, 107, 377, 418, 147, 719, 346, 450, 239, and Heritage Heights.

The projects proposed in the FY24 Plan would only add to those numbers to provide better roadways.



Firefighters with the Elba Volunteer Fire Department were dispatched Sunday, Aug. 13, at approximately 3 p.m., as mutual aid for the New Brockton Volunteer Fire Department. The call for help was due to a residential structure fire that New Brockton firefighters were battling. The home was located at the intersection of Hwy. 122 and Hwy. 51, just outside of New Brockton. Also responding to assist with this fire were firefighters from Enterprise and Fort Novose. One New Brockton firefighter sustained minor injuries when he fell through the floor during offensive attack on the fire. Another major issue firefighters had to deal with while trying to extinguish this blaze was high temperatures and humidity that day. Reportedly, several firefighters suffered heat exhaustion while on scene, and they were treated by EMT's with Enterprise Rescue. Troy Fire Department was requested to respond to the scene for an additional ambulance due to the number of firefighters needing medical treatment for the heat-related illnesses. The fire was fully extinguished after 7 p.m. Sunday night.



The Elba Recreation Center, located on Claxton Avenue, remains closed for now as the city is looking to complete a renovations project, but rejected bids Monday night due to the high prices for construction work. Rec Center offices currently are at 128 Court St.

Elba City Council rejects bids for rec center renovations

City of Elba officials recently opened bids for the Elba Recreation Center renovations, and although two bids were received on the project, the council voted Monday night, Aug. 14, to reject all bids due to the overall cost of the bids:

Elba Mayor Tom Maddox said the project engineer checked all bids and recom-

mended that all be rejected due to the high price of the bids received. He further noted the engineer recommended rebidding the project with a change in scope due.

During the discussion of the matter Monday night at the Elba City Council meeting, Maddox said the city has some \$500,000 set

aside for the rec center project, and both bids received during the recent bid opening were over \$1 million.

Council members voted unanimously to rebid the contract for the recreation center renovations.

The rec center, located on Claxton Avenue, is currently vacated in anticipation of getting the needed renovations completed. The rec center staff is temporarily utilizing a city-owned building at 128 Court Street for their offices.

Also, during Monday night's meeting, the council voted to award a drainage and road improvements project to the low bidder for the project. This is a CDBG-funded project.

The bid was awarded to Bullard Excavating Inc. in the amount of \$500,375, contingent upon ADECA approval.

The work for this project will generally consist of: resurfacing and miscellaneous drainage improvements along Jones Street, Jackson Street, Thomas Street, Reynolds Street, and Lee Street.



Local emergency responders were dispatched to this two-vehicle accident Tuesday morning, Aug. 15, on Alabama Hwy. 167 near County Rd. 145. Only minor injuries were reported. No further details were available as of press time this week.

CCBOE to hold FY24 budget hearings on Sept. 7th

The Coffee County Board of Education will hold the first public hearing to present the system-wide budget for Fiscal Year 2024 on Thursday, Sept. 7, 2023, at 12 noon. The budget hearing will be held at the Coffee County Board of Education Administrative Office, 400 Reddoch Hill Road, Elba, Alabama, during a special Board Meeting.

The second public hearing will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 7, at the Coffee County Board of Education Administrative Office, 400 Reddoch Hill Road, Elba, Alabama, during a regular board meeting.

Parents, teachers and interested citizens may attend these budget hearings. Budget

forms will be available at the Coffee County Board of Education Superintendent's Office prior to the hearings.

Power Outage Notice:

The Elba Electric Department will be working to replace poles in the Buford, Claxton, Yelverton, and Smith area on Thursday August 17, 2023. Customers in those areas may experience brief power outages after 5:00 p.m.

The city apologizes for any inconvenience during this time.

Area Happenings

The Coffee County Conservation District will hold its monthly board meeting Thursday, Aug. 17, at the Coffee County Extension Office, 1055 E. McKinnon Street, New Brockton, Ala. The meeting will start at 9 a.m. Only a limited number of people can be in the room so anyone planning to attend, should call 334-894-5581 x3

The Elba Lions Club will meet Tuesday, Aug. 22, at 6 p.m., with a special guest speaker. All members are urged to attend. Meetings are held at the Elba Senior Citizens Center, located on the square in Elba.

The Elba Elementary School PTO will meet Thursday, Aug. 31, at 6 p.m. at EES. Topics for the meeting will include: Title I, Fall Festival, Grandparents Breakfast, ACAP Growth Dance Party, and the Fall Semester Calendar of Events. All interested in helping the PTO this school year are asked to attend the meeting.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience." – George Washington

There is a proposal in Washington for a new law banning high officials buying and selling on the stock market. The idea is admirable but the success of such a law is a pipe dream. If these folks want to get around such a law, they will have a spouse, child, parent, or maybe a trust fund do the stock buying and selling. The person who wants to get around a law WILL find a way to do so. In fact we would suspect there would soon crop up a whole new bunch of 'advisors' who would help these officials quietly get around the law.

Record setting temperatures are being recorded all around the world. Sunday afternoon our phone recorded a 100-degree reading shortly after lunchtime. We broke out in a sweat just walking around the yard planning our next 'clean up' project. Later we read some medical report (on the internet) explaining that the high temps not only made our body overheat, but also 'cooked' our brains! Now you can share the official excuse for our mental shortcomings!!

We keep getting asked "When is the City of Elba going to name a new police chief?" Well we can't answer that question, as there is no official action underway to select a replacement for the former chief. The department is functioning now with an 'acting chief' who has not expressed any desire for being named the permanent department leader. That is understandable, as police chief doesn't seem to be a lifetime appointment in Elba (and often shouldn't be)!

COVID is experiencing an uptick all across America. There is not enough uptick to sound the alarm and go back into the required mask wearing but we need to keep up our guard. We personally expect to get the shot this Fall when the updated version is available. It doesn't hurt and is better than even the mildest case of COVID (and of course far better than the death cases). We continue to urge our readers to strongly consider joining us this fall in getting the upcoming new COVID shot.

Area schools are back in session, even though cotton picking has not even begun! It is amazing how traditions have changed even during our lifetime. Gone are the days when schools didn't open until cotton picking was about over and even the football teams had shortened training sessions to make room for the gathering of South Alabama's life blood. We urge our fellow drivers to be extra watchful for the potential of an excited child darting out into the traffic. Also remember that it is against the law to pass a stopped school bus! Think of the horror of going through the rest of your life knowing your careless driving was responsible for the death of a child who had his or her whole life ahead of them.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND SECTION 8



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CONGRESSMAN BARRY MOORE OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. - (202) 225-2901

TROY - (334) 465-7244

ANDALUSIA - (334) 428-1129

DOOTHAN - (334) 547-6630

WETUMPKA - (334) 478-6330

Cuzin Lou Lou's Tales from Yonder

Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

Cuzin Lou Lou has been really busy with several different projects recently, and those have cut into her sleep and "me" time!

It also has cut down on Lou Lou's available time to snuggle with Little Bean and the little monster has not been happy about that. A few times, Lou Lou has been working at home, and she would have to stop work for a bit to play with Little Bean. When the little one wants some attention, she demands it one way or another.

If Lou Lou is sitting at her computer at home working, Little Bean will jump up on her legs and scratch away with those front paws until Lou Lou stops what she is doing. Generally, she either wants to play or she wants something out of her treat box.

Lou Lou is hoping to have all her "extra projects" caught up by end of this week, and she can return to showing Little Bean all the attention her little furry self desires...oh yeah, and Sister too. She like attention as well!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

Make Plans to Attend the Coffee County Prayer Walk at Your School of Choice This Sunday!

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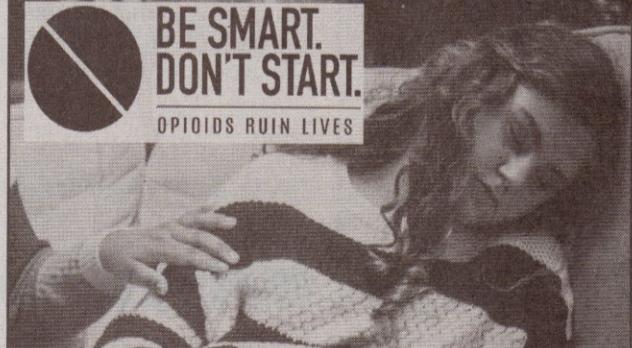
2019 GMC Acadia \$46300 *
per month
Stock # 6054P



2021 Chevy Traverse \$53800 *
per month
Stock # 6050P

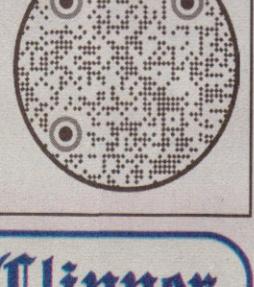


2021 Toyota Camry \$45300 *
per month
Stock # 5977P



WATCH KAITLIN'S STORY:

BeSmartDontStart.com/PARTY



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USPS 171-080

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e-mail clipper@troycable.net

John Ferrin Cox - PUBLISHER

Linda Hodge - EDITOR

Ricky Mularz - SPORTS

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year

6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax

Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax

6 months - \$13

Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15



These photos from the Dothan Moonlighters concert show folks enjoying themselves last Thursday night at the Elba Theatre in downtown Elba.

Elba hosts Dothan Moonlighters in concert last week

The Elba Chamber of Commerce/Elba Main Street in conjunction with the Elba Historic Preservation Committee hosted The Dothan Moonlighters last Thursday evening, Aug. 10, in concert at the historic Elba Theatre, located at 231 Court Ave., Elba.

This event was a fund raiser for an Elba Museum. It was well attended as those present enjoyed music, light hors d'oeuvres, and dancing.

Proceeds from ticket sales for this event will go towards purchasing display cases and other needs for the Elba 'History' Museum being created by the Elba Historic Preservation Committee.

Those attending seemed to have an enjoyable time at the concert.

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Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com

JOHN FRANKLIN HUDSON

Mr. John Franklin "Frank" Hudson, age 84, of Brundidge, Ala., died

Friday, August 11, 2023, at his home.

Graveside services were held Sunday, Aug. 13,

2023, at St. John Baptist Church with Rev. Avery Walker officiating and Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John Foy Hudson and Mildred Langley Hudson Clark.

Survivors include his wife: Lillie Frances Hudson, Brundidge; daughter: Vanessa (Benjamin Smith) Hudson, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; granddaughter: Ramona Smith, Fort Lauderdale; and brother: Jack Langley Hudson, Selma, Ala.

Funeral services will be

Thursday, Aug. 17, 2023, at 1 p.m., at Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, located at 3162 County Rd. 377, Elba.

VOYD ROWELL

Mr. Voyd Rowell,

age 96, of Ft. Walton Beach, Fla., died

Wednesday, August 9,

2023, in Orlando, Fla.

Voyd was born and raised in Elba, Ala. He graduated from Elba High School and attended Troy State University. He served in the United States Army, and was a veteran of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam.

Graveside services were held Monday, Aug. 14, 2023, at Whitewater Baptist Church with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing. The family requests that donations be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation.

He was preceded in death by parents, Lawrence and Grace (McCollough) Rowell of Elba, and sister, Syble Taylor of Montgomery.

Survivors include his wife: Teresa Rhodes Rowell, Ft. Walton Beach; son: James Rowell (William Brislin), daughter: Jill McKinnon (Kevin), and granddaughter: Janna Rowell, all of Orlando, Fla.

Shanaiya Alexis Williams

Miss Shanaiya Alexis Williams, age 14, of Elba,

Ala., died Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023.

She was born Aug. 30, 2008. She was a student at Elba High School.

A completed obituary was not available as of press time this week, but Coleman Funeral Home of Elba had announced service times.

Visitation was Wednesday, Aug. 16, at the funeral home from 6-7 p.m.

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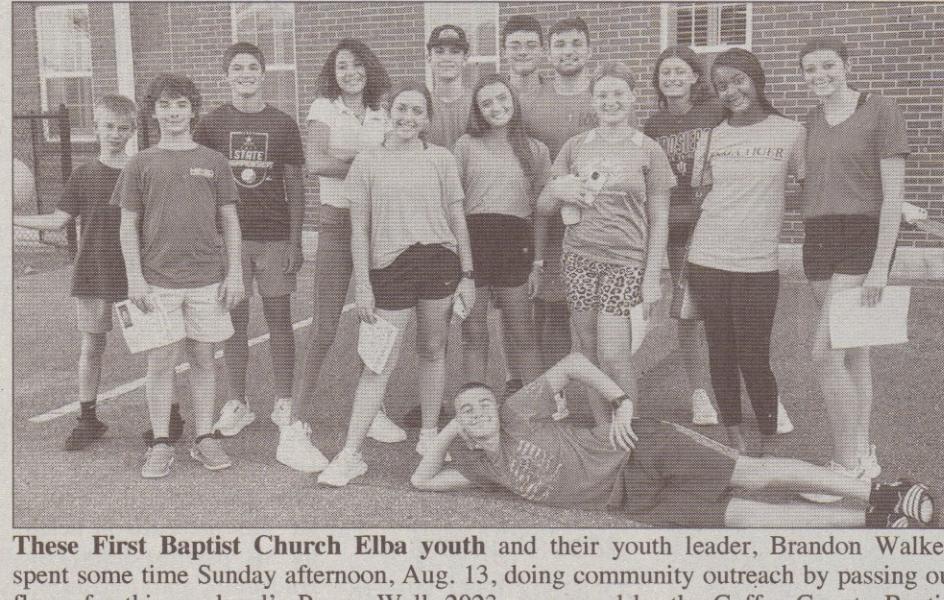
CHURCH NEWS

Clay Shoot set for Aug. 26th at Zion Chapel Baptist Church

The Zion Chapel Baptist Church Men's Ministry Annual Clay Shoot will be Saturday, Aug. 26, at 9 a.m., at 27057 Hwy. 87, Elba.

Lunch will be provided. There will be prizes for first, second, and third place. Participants should bring their own shells.

Attend the Church of Your Choice Every Sunday!



These First Baptist Church Elba youth and their youth leader, Brandon Walker, spent some time Sunday afternoon, Aug. 13, doing community outreach by passing out flyers for this weekend's Prayer Walk 2023, sponsored by the Coffee County Baptist Association's WMU. The event, however, is for all denominations. The prayer walk will be held at all city and county schools in Coffee County. Earlier in the day last Sunday, the First Baptist Church Elba youth also served their congregation during a Pancake Breakfast held at the church.

PASTOR'S CORNER

by Dwight Johnson, Pastor
Elba First Assembly of God

My grandfather and grandmother Johnson were sharecroppers. During the Great Depression they (and their fourteen children) would live wherever someone would provide a ramshackle house and let them work their fields. They lived at several locations in northern Dale and southern Barbour counties. It was a tough life that demanded hard work and much sacrifice.

Years later, one of the locations holds special significance for my family. On this land where my dad's family lived in an old house owned by someone else now sits a nice home, built and owned by my brother. Time has certainly redeemed our family!

We all have had sad, tragic, and regrettable events in our life. Things have happened to us, and we have done things that we wish could be deleted. Pain and memories remain. Some things cannot be changed, but there is still hope. We have a Redeemer!

Job, in the crucible of unthinkable suffering, said "I know that my Redeemer lives, and he will stand upon the earth at last. And after my body has decayed, yet in my body I will see God."

Boaz was a "kinsman redeemer" to Ruth, as allowed in the Law of Moses.

Isaiah 48:17 states "This is what the Lord says - your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: 'I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is good for you and leads you along the paths you should follow'."

These and other references to a redeemer culminate in Jesus, who is our ultimate redeemer.

He has taken our sin upon himself. He has taken our painful past, and given hope. He has taken our turmoil, and given peace. He is our Redeemer!

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN

Covenant Community Church

Paul Jackson, Pastor
Sunday Fellowship . . . 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Night "Peak of the Week & meal . . . 5:30 p.m.
Bible Study & Prayer . . . 6:15 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Damascus Baptist Church

Steve Watson, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

Dorcas Baptist Church

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Discipleship Training 5:00 p.m.

Eanson Baptist Church

Mark Ward, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:15 p.m.

Basin Baptist Church

Sam Self, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:30 p.m.

Bethel AME Church

Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

Bethlehem Baptist Church

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Class . . . 6:30 p.m.

Bethany Baptist Church

Greg Cotter, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train . . . 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:30 p.m.

Bluff Springs Baptist Church

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

Brooklyn Baptist Church

Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.

Chestnut Grove Methodist Church

Remonia Smith, Pastor
Church Service . . . 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

Cornerstone Bible Church

Larry Mills, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night . . . 7:00 p.m.

Elba First Baptist Church

Kit Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

Elba United Methodist Church

Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Even. Services . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

Elba Zion Baptist Church

Lovell Martin, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.

Haw Hill Assembly of God

Shirlee Ellis, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

Hebron Baptist Church

Mark Cooper, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Elba First Baptist Church

Brandon Walker, Youth Leader
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Elba Temple COGIC

Timothy Williams, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

Fairview Baptist Church

Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Faith Chapel

Phillip Adecock, Pastor
Sunday Morning . . . 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

First Assembly of God - Kinston

Danny Bradshaw, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

Friendship Baptist Church

Scott Donaldson, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

Friendship Holiness Church

Edward E. Drake, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

Gods Power House Evangelistic Church

Overseers - Billy Berry
Sat. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Sun. Service . . . 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 4:00 p.m.

Elba Church of God of Prophecy

H.L. Buckner, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night . . . 6:00 p.m.
Thur. Night . . . 7:00 p.m.

Elba Deliverance Tabernacle

Allen Richards, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.

Elba New Zion Baptist Church

Dwight Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

Greater New Zion Baptist Church

Marvin Luckett Jr., Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

Elba First Temple COGIC

W. K. Ellison, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.

Elba First Assembly of God

Brandon Walker, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Elba Calvary Baptist Church

J. R. Parks, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:30 p.m.

Elba Gilead Baptist Church

Dowell Emfinger, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.

Elba Olivet Baptist Church

Olan Strickland, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Even. Service 6:30 p.m.

Elba Haven Baptist Church

Arlen Dieas, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 4:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:30 p.m.

Elba Hope Baptist Church

James Boots, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Praise Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

Elba Zion Baptist Church

Will Jordan, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

Elba Hill Assembly of God

Shirlee Ellis, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.

Elba Hill Community Baptist Church

Brad Sasser, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service 5:00 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ

Pastor Bishop E.H. Hill
Lanny Shepard, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 12 noon
Even. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Class . . . 7:00 p.m.
Fri. Missionary Ser. 7:00 p.m.

Woodland Grove Baptist Church

Donnie Marler, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.

Zion Chapel Baptist Church

Cary Maulden, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.

Alberton Baptist Church

Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

Bethany Baptist Church

Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train . . . 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship . . . 6:30 p.m.

Bethel AME Church

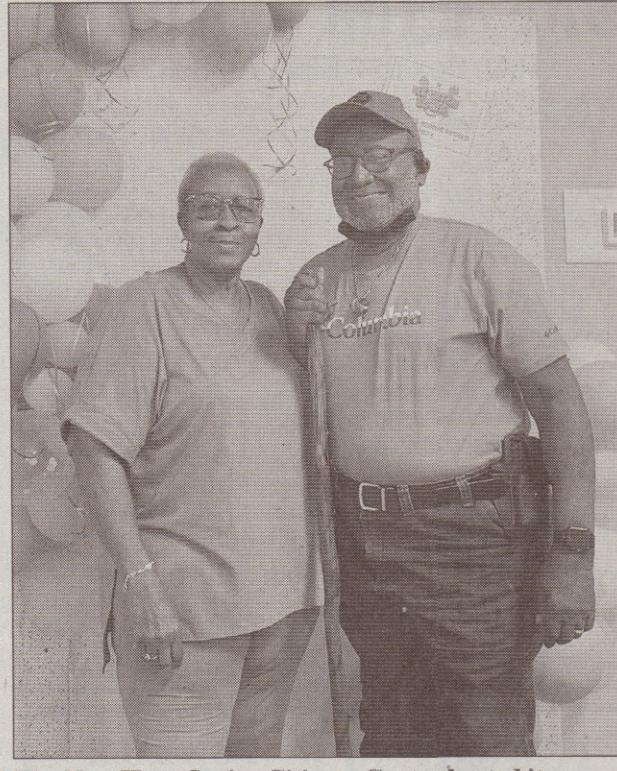
Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.

Bethlehem Baptist Church

LIFESTYLES



Several members of the Elba Public Library "Book Club" are shown here meeting Tuesday morning, Aug. 15, in the community room at the library. This week's book discussion was on "Catching Fireflies" by Charles Martin. The Elba Public Library offers programs for all ages throughout each month, such as the book club. Stop by or check out the library's Facebook page for more information on the programs offered.

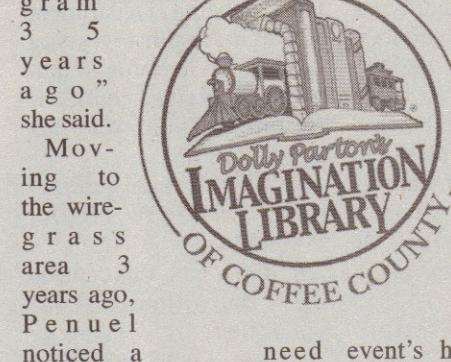


The New Hope Senior Citizens Center hosted its annual "Ice Cream Social" last Thursday, Aug. 10, for the participating seniors. They enjoyed their favorite Blue Bell flavors! It was exciting watching them eat their ice cream, laugh and talk! Later the seniors, including the Browns (pictured above), enjoyed taking photos in front of the photo prop! It was so fun to watch their personalities come out in front of the camera! The next day the group went and enjoyed lunch at Chow King in Dothan. Senior director Conzuella Banks said, "I'm so happy to have everyone back in the center and being active again!!"

Story Fest celebrates imagination

by Mikailie Caulder,
Auburn University Living
Democracy Program student

With deep-rooted connections to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Judy Penuel, Director of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library of Coffee County, spent approximately 6 months gaining sponsorships for the event. Organized to promote literacy and provide children with books, the Imagination Story Fest featured a diverse range of activities.



Moving to the wire-grass area 3 years ago," she said.

Parton's Imagination Library, a nonprofit organization founded in 1995, has distributed millions of free books to children worldwide. The program grants children a free book each month from birth to age 5.

A celebration of creativity, storytelling, and the power of imagination, the Imagination Story Fest took place on June 10th. The

Coffee County School System trying to identify all persons with disabilities

The Coffee County School System is in the process of identifying all persons with disabilities, ages 3-21 years, who are not enrolled in an educational setting, and all 0-3-year-old children with disabilities.

If a parent of a child with disabilities or for those who know of someone who is disabled, contact the principal of the local school or the Special Education Coordinator's office at the Coffee County Board of Education at (334) 897-5016.

It is important that all persons with disabilities be identified so appropriate services can be provided.

Additional contact information for the Coffee County School System:

- Tami Crosby, Special Services Coordinator, (334) 897-5016

- Carolyn Broaden, Federal Programs Coordinator, (334) 897-5016

- Megan Driggers, Principal of Kinston School, (334) 565-3016

- Hollie Richardson, Principal of New Brockton Elementary School, (334) 894-6152

event, held at Enterprise State Community College, saw an impressive turnout of participants. Attendees of all ages embraced the joy and wonder of literature.

Penuel, Director of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library of Coffee County, spent approximately 6 months gaining sponsorships for the event. Organized to promote literacy and provide children with books, the Imagination Story Fest featured a diverse range of activities.

The event's highlight was the Storytelling Stage, where renowned authors, local celebrities, and talented children's entertainers fascinated the audience.

Jennifer Amlong, Director at Elba Library, expressed her delight at the variety of shows, "The kids were exposed to many different performers." Magician Doc Magic and ventriloquist Jacki Manna were among the entertainers involved.

Amlong shared, "My personal favorite was see-



Auburn University "Living Democracy Program" student Mikailie Caulder volunteered during the Story Fest held in Enterprise in June.

ing the kids following Kezia as she led them in yoga through storytelling."

Through stomps, chomps, and roars, Kezia prompted a creative, educational, and entertaining experience for all.

The Storytelling Stage even featured Bil Lepp, a five-time champion storyteller. Known for his dynamic and humorous sto-

rytelling style, Lepp captivated his audience with engaging narratives.

His presence is a celebration of storytelling highlighting the power of entertainment, education, and inspiration. Specifically, Penuel explained, "we wanted to be able to introduce the art of storytelling done through festivals nationwide."



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The EHS Class of 1973 will be hosting the band, The Wingnuts, from Pell City, Alabama, for their 50th class reunion on Saturday, October 28, 2023, from 3:00-5:00pm in the Elba High School Auditorium. Their theme will be "Run through the Jungle" featuring music from the 60's and 70's and dedicated to the Vietnam Era. Tickets will be \$25.

Reunion Groups will be able to purchase theirs in August by contacting Debra Coon Rivera at Debra.mimi3@aol.com and reserve sections for their class.

The public tickets will be sold in September with same email. Please feel free to share!



OCTOBER 28, 2023 3PM

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THE WingNuts

Military Support Group Meetings in Enterprise:

Enterprise Military Support Group meets on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Anyone who needs to talk about difficult experiences and needs an understanding friend is invited. Meetings at Church on Boll Weevil Circle, 2017 Boll Weevil Circle, Enterprise, Ala.

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SPORTS NEWS

Views From The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our youngest grandson Cannon came over for a visit over the weekend to get some pictures made ahead of his first birthday, and while his excitement on the pier didn't last long, he did fish with me a little bit and was amazed how big the lake was compared to his pool. With is first birthday only a day away, I hope he enjoys his first birthday party more than his first fishing trip.

For what it is worth....

*** The preseason high school football polls are out, and while they mean nothing, they do give an indication of the respect a program has built over the years, and that is certainly the case here in Elba where the Tigers are ranked second in the 1A poll behind defending state champion Leroy by both the Alabama Sports Writers Association and the Alabama High School Football Historical Society. The Tigers posted an 11-1 record last season and an 11-2 record back in 2021, and with nine starters back on both sides of the ball it is easy to see why the Tigers have received so much preseason hype. I know the players and coaches at Elba High have been hard at work all summer getting ready for the season, and ready or not it is here. I for one am more than ready!

*** Elba Tiger football standout Alvin Henderson announced last week he had narrowed down the list of potential college suitors from over seventy to ten. His 'Top 10' include Alabama, Arkansas, Auburn, Florida State, Georgia, Miami, Penn State, Tennessee, Oregon and Southern Cal. Henderson stated in a published interview in a daily newspaper the list included teams that he has built a relationship with since recruiting began in the ninth grade and that no team was really a front runner at this time. My guess is that the announcement will not slow down the recruiting process that much, but at least he did give some fans a reason to get excited.

*** The sport of football has always been popular in the South, and when you stop and look at the number of youngsters playing football in Alabama it is clear the state is among the tops in the nation, behind only Mississippi, when based upon per capita population. In Alabama, Mississippi and Texas one third of all male high student-athletes play the sport. According to statistics from the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations, 7.7 high school football players per 1,000 play in the state of Mississippi, while in Alabama the rate is 5.9 student-athletes per 1,000, followed by Texas at 5.6 per thousand. In the year quoted in the study (2021-2022) just over 30,000 high school boys played football, making it the state's most popular sport, with basketball coming in second with a total of 13,000. And as any good athletic director will tell you, when a school plays football you really need to add cheerleaders, band members and fans into the equation, which makes it the biggest show in town!

*** In closing.... A major gambling scandal has hit college football after earlier making headlines in pro sports and even among college coaches, and while there is no doubt the NCAA will step in and make new rules, it isn't hard to figure out why the players are starting to gamble since all the daily papers list betting lines in every edition, ESPN has a show dedicated to betting lines and it is legal to get on college games in most states online and at various websites. Years ago it was illegal to possess marijuana in the country before individual states changed the law, and while it may not seem like a fair comparison, I look for the rules to change when it comes to betting and in the not so distant future it will be legal to bet on campuses across the nation before a game starts. Hey, it's a crazy world we live in, and isn't getting any better.

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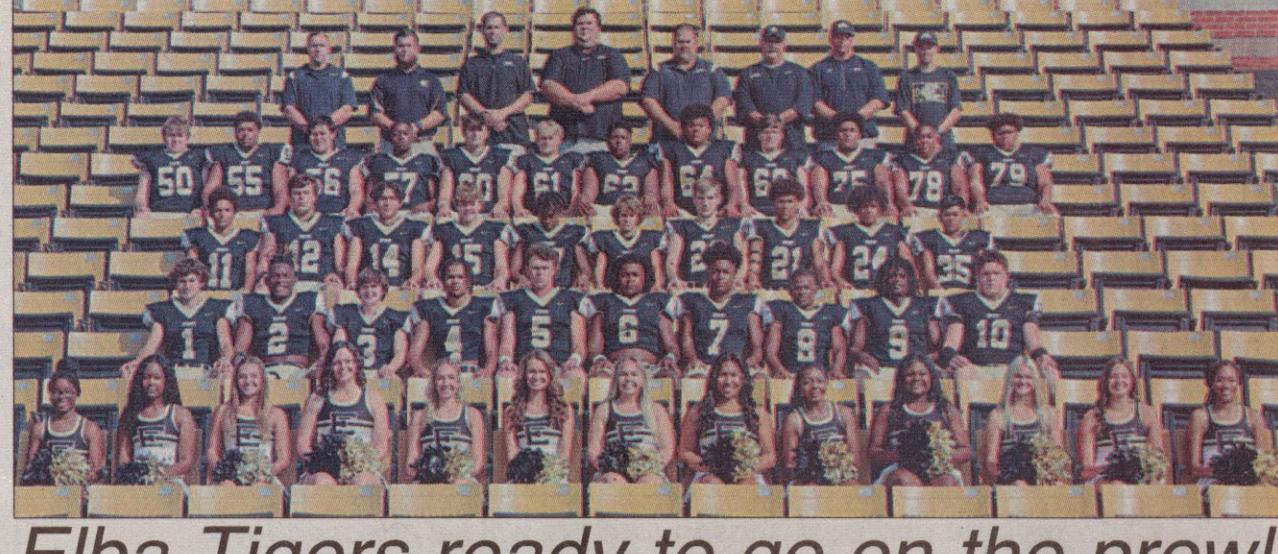
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Elba Tigers ready to go on the prowl

While the Elba Tigers have piled up the wins in the past two seasons in rolling to a 19-1 regular season record and a 21-3 overall record, the Tigers have seen the road to a possible state title end each year in the second round of the playoffs. With nine starters returning on both offense and defense from last season's 11-1 squad, the team has set lofty goals that include a long run in the post-season and a trip to Tuscaloosa to compete for the Class 1A state championship.

"We feel like this could be our best season since we got here," admitted fourth-year coach Marc Sieving, in a recent published interview in The Dothan Eagle, "and when the players set their goals they wanted to win in the post-season. That is a goal we all have, but we have a very tough regular season schedule that includes eight region opponents that have the same goals as we do, as well as a pair of 3A teams that don't have any intention of losing to a 1A team. We are going to have to stay focused at improving one day at a time and being a better team every Friday night."

The name all Tiger fans mention when looking ahead to the season is junior running back Alvin Henderson, a five-star back with over 70 college scholarship offers from across the nation. The 5-10, 195-pound, speedster, is the reigning 1A 'Back of the Year' after a banner season a year ago in which he rushed for 2,636 yards and 46 touchdowns, an average of 219.7 yards per game and 13.5 yards per carry, and also caught two td passes for 26 yards.

"Alvin is a five-star running back and so we obviously run the football a lot," said Sieving. "We did throw the ball to him some this summer in seven-on-seven competition, and is a very good receiver. We won't hesitate to throw him the ball coming out of the backfield, but he is one of the best runners in the nation and that is how he will be used. Alvin has been an outstanding running back since the ninth-grade, but has worked hard to get better every day in practice and it is that hard work that has made him the player he is today."

While any team with a player like Henderson on its roster would be excited, Coach Sieving has many



ELBA TIGERS COACHING STAFF.... (l-r) Tyler Reeves, Jesse Luker, Al Gilmore, Head Coach Marc Sieving, Johnny Dyess, Zach Spann, Kelsey Prestwood.

other reasons to look forward to the upcoming season.

"We didn't really lose but two seniors off last year's team on both offense and defense," stated Sieving, "and they were the same two guys. We have the majority of our players back and they are now stronger and faster. We feel like we will have an opportunity to play some good football this season, and are all looking forward to the season."

While Henderson is the main weapon in the Tigers high-scoring offense, he is surrounded by an abundance of talent at almost every position.

Senior quarterback Brayden Johnson is back for his third year as the Tiger signal-caller, and the 6-1, 240-pounder, is a threat both running and passing. His strength and power enabled him to run for 559 yards and four touchdowns during his two years at quarterback, while also throwing for 1,083 yards and 10 scores.

"Brayden is a hard-nosed player that comes to play every day," added Sieving. "He is confident player and is calm no matter the situation."

Anchoring the Elba line up front will be four returning starters in junior Logan Horton (5-9, 180), senior Jamal Siler (6-4, 275), senior Kaleb Mitchell (6-2, 270) and senior Keaton Poole (5-11, 215), while also back in the lineup will be senior tight-end Ty Sieving (6-2, 200). A new face in the starting lineup to replace one of the two seniors from a year ago will be highly-regarded junior Emmanuel Cook (6-4, 285), who is also getting a lot of looks from colleges across the nation.

"The right side of our offensive line will check in at 270, 275 and 285," said Coach Sieving, "and that is rare in 1A football. They are all big and strong, not just heavy, and hopefully will give us a plus we can capitalize on in our running game."

While the talent is easy to spot on offense, two other returning starters include junior blocking back Jacob Watkins (6-0, 200) and senior wide-receiver Collin Arnold (6-3, 170), while also manning starting spots will be junior wingback Cayden Adkins (6-1, 235) and junior wide-receiver Brady Johnson (5-11, 175).

"Our offense has scored a lot of points the last two years and is centered around our running game," said Sieving. "Everybody knows what we are going to do, but not everybody

Elba ranked #2 in preseason poll

The Alabama Sports Writers Association released its 2023 preseason high school football rankings last week with the Elba Tigers ranked #2 in Class 1A.

The Tigers, which posted an 11-1 record last season and have a 21-3 record over the past two seasons, have been ranked in the 'Top 10' in the sports writer's poll for an amazing 221 weeks, and are ranked in the preseason poll for the 21st time in 39 years.

All seven defending champions were ranked atop their respective classifications, led by (7A) Thompson, (6A) Saraland, (5A) Ramsay, (4A) Andalusia, (3A) St. James, (2A) Fyffe and (1A) Leroy.

The 'Top 10' in each class, along with area teams receiving votes are as follows:

Class 7A – 1. Thompson, 2. Auburn, 3. Hoover, 4. Central, 5. Phenix City 6. Vestavia Hills 7. Enterprise 8. Dothan, 9. Mary Montgomery 10. Prattville

Class 6A – 1. Saraland 2. Clay-Chalkville 3. Hartselle 4. Mountain Brook 5. Theodore 6. Hillcrest Tuscaloosa 7. Parker 8. Muscle Shoals 9. Spanish Fort 10.

Class 5A – 1. Ramsay 2. Charles Henderson 3. UMS-Wright 4. Pleasant Grove 5. Faith Academy 6. Leeds 7. Moody 8. Beauregard 9. Gulf Shores 10. Demopolis

Class 4A – 1. Andalusia 2. Cherokee County 3. Montgomery Catholic 4. Jackson 5. Oneonta 6. Jacksonville 7. Anniston 8. Westminster Christian 9. Handley 10. T.R. Miller

Class 3A – 1. St. James 2. Piedmont 3. Gordo 4. Mars Hill Bible 5. Mobile Christian 6. Madison Academy 7. Houston Academy 8. Sylvania 9. Pike County 10. Hillcrest Evergreen (Also) 13. Opp, 15. Straughn

Class 2A – 1. Fyffe 2. B.B. Comer 3. Pisgah 4. Highland Home 5. Tuscaloosa Academy 6. Ariton 7. Reeltown 8. Vincent 9. Goshen 10. Aliceville (Also) 12. G.W. Long

Class 1A – 1. Leroy 2. Elba 3. Pickens County 4. Brantley 5. Meek 6. Sweet Water 7. Spring Garden 8. Lynn 9. Coosa Christian 10. Millry (Also) 13. Florala, 14. Georgiana

has the backs, receivers and linemen we have, and when you can average 10 yards per carry running the ball, why throw it?"

The Tiger defense struggled at times last season at times, but did limit seven opponents to one score or less, and appears to be a veteran group entering the season.

The defense will be anchored by a returning all-state defensive back in senior Cameron Gray (6-1, 165), who had over 50 tackles and picked off five passes a year ago.

"We expect a solid effort on defense and feel like we should be able to hold teams down in points, as well as run to the ball and make tackles. Our group of linebackers in Jacob Watkins, Cayden Adkins and Brayden Johnson will be second to none! Those three guys are big (tipping the scales at over 200 pounds) and fast, and can really play."

Collin Arnold and Ty Sieving will also return as starters at outside linebacker, and both are rangy defenders standing over 6-2. Add to that Jamal Siler (270) and Kaleb Mitchell (275) in the line, Cody Gray (6-0, 160), a senior, safety; reserve linemen Emmanuel Cook (285) and Keaton Poole (215); and, cornerback Brady Johnson (175). Newcomer Kendrick

Jordan, a transfer from Dale County, is also being counted on to be a stopper at a linebacker spot on defense.

"We have both our kickers back in placekicker Alex Wisecup and punter Brayden Johnson," added Sieving, "and that is a place where it is always a plus to have experience."

Wisecup, a senior, was an all-state selection a year ago and last season booted a 43-yard field-goal, while Johnson has a big leg and can flip the field.

"Injuries are always a concern," said Sieving, "and we do have a lot of players that go both ways. However, this year we have made a concerted effort to develop quality depth, and feel like we will be able to give everyone a break during the game to keep them as fresh as possible. We think we did a good job in the spring and summer developing some younger players, and will keep working to get more depth."

"We know we will get everyone's best effort every week and have a bullseye on our backs," admitted Sieving, "but we are confident we can have another winning season and the players are working every day to be the best they can be. Every game will be a battle, but our players are battle-tested and ready to get on the field."

Elba's "Meet the Tigers"

Thursday,
August 17, 2023

6:00 PM
EHS Gymnasium

"COME MEET THE FOOTBALL
TEAM, CHEERLEADERS, &
BAND AS WE GET READY FOR
THE 2023 SEASON!"

Elba Parks and Recreation 2023 Youth Football Schedule

SEPTEMBER 9
SEPTEMBER 16
SEPTEMBER 23
SEPTEMBER 30
OCTOBER 7
OCTOBER 14
OCTOBER 21
OCTOBER 28
NOVEMBER 4
NOVEMBER 11

*JAMBOREE
ELBA VS. NEW BROCKTON
ELBA VS. SKIPPERVILLE
ELBA VS. ZION CHAPEL
ELBA VS. DALEVILLE
ELBA VS. GOSHEN
ELBA VS. ARITON
ELBA VS. OPP
CHEER COMP @ PLAYOFFS
SUPER BOWL

DALEVILLE
AWAY
HOME
HOME
HOME
AWAY
HOME
AWAY
GOSHEN
ARITON

*Jamboree and post-season formats will be released later.

Game locations: All home games will be played at Elba High School

Game times:

Mini Mite Division (age 7-8) begin at 8:30 am

Termite Division (ages 9-10) approximately 9:45 am

Pee Wee Division (ages 11-12) approximately 11:00 am

Wiregrass Wolverines set to play at home in Elba this Saturday, Aug. 19

The Elba-based 3-1 Wiregrass Wolverines added a win to their season last Saturday night, Aug. 5, will be back in action Saturday night, Aug. 19, when they host the Savannah Raiders in football.

Gates will open at 5 p.m. at Elba's Miller Memorial Stadium, located in downtown Elba. The game is slated to start at 6 p.m.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Concessions are always available too.

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